GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3202
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
SETTING UP OF TASK FORCE
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up expert committee/Task Force to look into the marketing set up of the Public Sector units in fertilizer sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the short and long term needs of the farming community; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for upgradation of soil testing and farmers the training facilities in the Country, State-wise? A N S W E R

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The fertiliser companies develop their marketing network as per their requirement, financial viability, requirements of States and their commercial judgement. In order to ensure timely availability of Urea, which is the only controlled fertiliser, its demand is assessed by the Government every season and allocations are made to the manufactures in advance. Part of the requirements are also met through imports. In the case of decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic fertilisers like Di- ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP), a buffer stock is maintained to overcome any shortage in supplies. Both urea as well as major decontrolled fertilisers are available to farmers at subsidised prices.

(d) Government of India is implementing a scheme of `Balanced and Integrated use of fertilisers` from 1991-92, inter alia, for setting up and strengthening soil testing laboratories in the States/Union Territories. A statement indicating the funds released to various States/Union Territories during the Eighth and Ninth five year plans is enclosed.

ANNEXURE
Indicating the funds released to State Governments for setting up/strengthening soil testing laboratories.

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Funds Released VIII Five year Plan 1997-98	Funds Released IX Five Year Plan 1998-99
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53.65	- 25.00
2.	Assam	20.30	- 5.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.00	- -
4.	Bihar	86.70	- 5.00
5.	Goa	-	8.65 -
6.	Gujarat	17.63	- 40.00

7 Haryana	28.65	103.80	-
8. Himachal Pradesh	22.30	17.30	-
9. Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	-	10.00
10. Karnataka	8.65	17.30	-
11. Kerala	2.00	8.65	-
12. Madhya Pradesh	36.65	-	10.00
13. Maharashtra	8.00	30.00	-
14. Manipur	13.00	8.65	-
15. Meghalaya	13.65	-	-
16. Mizoram	11.35	-	-
17. Nagaland	24.30	-	-
18. Orissa	60.85	-	10.00
19. Punjab	59.00	43.25	-
20. Rajasthan	16.65	40.00	-
21. Sikkim	11.90	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu	32.90	17.30	-
23. Tripura	4.10	-	-
24. Uttar Pradesh	13.00	-	49.00
25. West Bengal	13.00	-	5.00
26. Lakshadweep	3.15	-	-
Total	574.38	294.90	159.00